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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2598

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY MOWCOW

ALL NATO CAPITALS

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 USNATO 5412

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: REVISED TEXT OF KHLESTOV'S STATEMENT TO NOVEMBER
8 PLENARY

VIENNA FOR USMBFR DEL

REF: VIENNA 9248

1. THERE FOLLOWS REVISED TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF KHLESTOV'S
STATEMENT TO NOVEMBER 8 PLENARY MEETING (ORIGINAL TEXT REFTEL).
AMBASSADOR BEHREND'S CIRCULATED THIS TEXT, ALONG WITH REVISED
TRANSLATION OF PROPOSED SOVIET AGREEMENT, AT NOVEMBER 9 NAC
CONSULTATION WITH AD HOC GROUP REPRESENTATIVES (DETAILS AND
TEXT OF REVISED AGREEMENT SEPTTEL).

2. BEGIN TEXT OF REVISED TRANSLATION OF KHLESTOV'S STATE-
MENT:

MR. CHAIRMAN,
SECRET

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DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES,

AT THE MEETING ON OCTOBER 31 THE SOVIET DELEGATION SET FORTH THE
GENERAL APPROACH OF THE SOVIET UNION TO THE PROBLEM OF THE

REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. ON THAT OCCASION PARTICULAR ATTENTION WAS DRAWN BY THE DELEGATION TO THE PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE SUBJECT MATTER CONTAINED IN THE SPEECH BY L.I. BREZHNEV, THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION AT THE WORLD CONGRESS OF PEACELOVING FORCES IN MOSCOW ON OCTOBER 26. WE DECLARED CLEARLY AND DEFINITELY THE READINESS OF THE SOVIET UNION TO WORK OUT TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS PRACTICAL STEPS FOR REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN THE AGREED AREA OF THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT.

THE SOVIET DELEGATION LISTENED WITH GREAT ATTENTION TO THE STATEMENTS OF OTHER DELEGATIONS AND HAS ANALYSED THEM THOROUGHLY. ONE CANNOT DENY, OF COURSE, THAT DIFFERENCES SOMETIMES SIGNIFICANT, EXIST IN THE POSITIONS OF THE PARTIES. BUT AT THE SAME TIME, WE NOTE WITH SATISFACTION THAT ON A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT ISSUES THERE EXIST A COMMUNITY OF VIEWS BEING UNDOUBTEDLY OF GREATER IMPORTANCE TO OUR NEGOTIATIONS WHICH FACILITATES THE SEARCH FOR MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS.

WE ALL AGREE, AS IT ALSO FOLLOWS FROM THE STATEMENTS OF THE DELEGATIONS, THAT OUR NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY WITH THE AIM OF WORKING OUT AGREEMENT ON MUTUAL REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THE SPEAKERS EMPHASIZED THAT THEIR STATES WERE INTERESTED THAT SUCH A REDUCTION WOULD LEAD TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE EUROPEAN STATES SECURITY AT LOWER LEVELS OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS. THEY ALSO CONFIRMED THE BASIS PRINCIPLE OF OUR TALKS AGREED UPON AT THE PREPARATORY CONSULTATIONS; NAMELY, THAT SPECIFIC STEPS TOWARDS REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE WILL HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT IN SCOPE AND TIMING, AND OF COURSE TO BE CARRIED OUT, IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY WILL IN ALL RESPECTS AND AT EVERY POINT STRICTLY CONFORM TO THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR EACH PARTY. THERE EXISTS ALSO, WE BELIEVE, A COMMON UNDERSTANDING THAT THE REDUCTION SHOULD COVER BOTH FOREIGN AND NATIONAL FORCES AND ARMAMENT IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

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THUS, AS WE SEE IT, A DEFINED BASIS EXISTS FOR BUSINESSLIKE AND CONSTRUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS. BESIDES, THE FACT THAT OUR NEGOTIATIONS, AS IT WAS NOTED BY MANY DELEGATIONS, ARE HELD IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF EVER DEEPENING POLITICAL DETENTE IN EUROPE AND BECOMING A REALITY IN THE LIFE OF THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT, ENABLES US TO CONCLUDE THAT OUR NEGOTIATIONS COULD AND SHOULD BRING POSITIVE RESULTS.

NATURALLY, THE FRUITFULNESS OF OUR COMMON EFFORT, AS WELL AS THE SUCCESS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AS A WHOLE, WILL DEPEND, TO A LARGE EXTENT, ON THE READINESS OF ALL THE PARTICIPANTS TO SEEK MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE DECISIONS. IT IS ALSO OF IMPORTANCE WHAT WAY IS CHOSEN FROM THE VERY BEGINNING TO ACHIEVE OUR GOAL. EVIDENTLY WE ARE HERE TO WORK OUT BY JOINING

EFFORTS AN AGREEMENT ON A VERY SPECIFIC PROBLEM, THAT IS THE MUTUAL REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. WE ARE, THEREFORE, CONVINCED THAT OUR NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE MORE PRODUCTIVE IF THEY PROCEED ON THE BASIS OF A CONCRETE DOCUMENT. THE EXPERIENCE OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND TALKS CONFIRMS THAT SUCH DOCUMENTS ENABLES THE PARTICIPANTS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THEM MORE PROMPTLY AND EFFICIENTLY.

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE GREAT IMPORTANCE OF THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF DETENTE AND STRENGTHENING SECURITY IN EUROPE AND DESIRING TO MAKE OUR NEGOTIATIONS ACTION ORIENTED, THE SOVIET DELEGATION IN BEHALF OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC PRESENTS A DRAFT AGREEMENT ON THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINED SPECIFIC PROPOSALS WHOSE REALIZATION WOULD PERMIT THE BRINGING ABOUT OF REDUCTION, AND A SUBSTANTIAL ONE, OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE WITHIN AN AGREED, MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE TIME PERIOD FOR REDUCTIONS. THE CARRYING OUT OF THE REDUCTIONS PROPOSED IN THE DRAFT AGREEMENT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE SECURITY OF THE STATES PARTICIPATING IN THE NEGOTIATIONS OF ALL THE EUROPEAN STATES
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AT LOWER LEVELS OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS, AND WOULD LIMIT THE ARMS RACE IN WHICH ALL PEOPLES ARE INTERESTED.

THE DOCUMENT WE ARE SUBMITTING TODAY HAS BEEN WORKED OUT AFTER A THOROUGH STUDY OF POSSIBLE APPROACHES TO THE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM CONFRONTING US AND IN THE COMMON VIEW OF THE FOUR DELEGATIONS IT MOST FULLY CORRESPONDS TO THE AIM OF MAKING THE NEGOTIATIONS A SUCCESS. THE DRAFT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN WORKED OUT ON A BASIS OF THE ALREADY AGREED PRINCIPLES AND IT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT CONSTRUCTIVE CONSIDERATIONS OF OTHER STATES PARTICIPATING IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. WE WOULD LIKE TO STRESS PARTICULARLY THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PRACTICAL MEASURES OF REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS PROPOSED IN THIS DOCUMENT WOULD NOT DIMINISH SECURITY OF ANY PARTY AND GIVE NOBODY UNILATERAL ADVANTAGES NOR UPSET THE ESTABLISHED RELATIONSHIP OF FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND GENERALLY ON THE WHOLE EUROPEAN CONTINENT.

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LIMDIS

MAY I NOW TURN TO THE PRESENTATION OF THE CONTENTS OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT AND MAKE A FEW CLARIFICATIONS.

THE PREAMBLE OF THE AGREEMENT LAYS DOWN ACCORDING TO THE GENERALLY ACCEPTED PRACTICE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW OF TREATIES, THOSE AIMS THAT GUIDE THE STATES-PARTICIPANTS IN CONCLUDING THE AGREEMENT ON THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. IT STATES IN PARTICULAR THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED REDUCTION WOULD SUPPLEMENT POLITICAL DETENTE IN EUROPE BY MILITARY DETENTE. CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY IN CENTRAL EUROPE AT LOWER LEVELS OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS, AND DEEPEN MUTUAL CONFIDENCE OF THE STATES.

IN ARTICLE 1 IT IS PROPOSED TO ESTABLISH THE OBLIGATION OF STATES-PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT TO REDUCE THEIR FORCES AND ARMAMENTS STATIONED ON THE TERRITORIES OF BELGIUM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE GDR, THE FRG, LUXEMBOURG, THE NETHERLANDS AND POLAND. THE REDUCTION, AS STATED IN THE ARTICLE, SHALL BE CARRIED OUT STRICTLY WITHIN THE AGREED PERIOD IN ORDER THAT NO DAMAGE IS
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INFLECTED ON THE SECURITY OF ANY PARTY.

THE ARTICLE ALSO FORMULATES THE OBLIGATION OF THE PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT TO BRING ABOUT A REDUCTION OF THE RESPECTIVE FOREIGN AND NATIONAL FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN THE ABOVEMENTIONED AREA. IT IS PROPOSED THAT THE REDUCTION BE MADE ON AN EQUAL PERCENTAGE BASIS.

IN SUGGESTING THAT THE REDUCTION OF BOTH FOREIGN AND NATIONAL FORCES AND ARMAMENTS BE SIMULTANEOUS WE PROCEED FROM THE FACT THAT THE AGREED SUBJECT MATTER OF THE PRESENT TALKS IS, AND I

WOULD LIKE TO STRESS THIS, THE MUTUAL REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THE SOVIET UNION BELIEVES THAT ONLY SUCH A REDUCTION-THAT IS A SIMULTANEOUS REDCUTION OF NATIONAL AND FOREIGN FORCES AND ARMAMENTS BY THE STATES-PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT CAN LEAD TO THE GENUINE MILITARY DETENTE, TO THE LESSENING OF DANGER OF MILITARY CONFRONTATION IN THIS AREA. BESIDES SUCH AN APPROACH DOES NOT GIVE ANY PARTY UNILATERAL ADVANTAGES.

ARTICLE 2 OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT OF THE SOVIALIST COUNTRIES PROVIDED FOR THE OBLIGATION OF PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT TO REDUCE THE GROUND AND AIR FORCES AND ARMAMENTS, INCLUDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. IN PROPOSING THAT THE FUTURE REDUCTION SHOULD EMBRACE THE ABOVE-MENTIONED TYPES OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS, WER PROCEED FROM THE FACT, THAT CAPABILITIES OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE ARE DETERMINED BY THE THE ENTIRE COMPLEX AND THE TYPES OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS STATIONED THERE. THY COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED OTHER THAN IN THEIR ENTIRETY, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT RISKING THE DISTURBING OF THE EXISTING RELATIONSHIP OF FORCES, TO REDUCE ONLY INDIVIDUAL COMPONENTS WITHOUT TOUCHING THE OTHERS. ONLY SUCH AN APPROACH CAN ENSURE A GENUINE MILITARY DETENTE IN EUROPE WITH DUE RESPECT TO THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR ANY PARTY.

THE SIMULTANEOUS REDUCTION OF GROUND AND AIR FORCES AND ARMAMENTS INCLUDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS, AS IT IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE DRAFT AGREEMENT, WOULD ALLOW THE REDUCTION OF THE LEVEL OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS, INCLUDING THE MOST DEADLY WEAPONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

FURTHER, ARTICLE 2 OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT CONTAINS SPECIFIC
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PROPOSALS AS TO THE SIZE OF THE REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. IT PROVIDES FOR THE REDUCTION TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THREE STAGES.

DURING THE FIRST STAGE, IN THE COURSE OF 1975, THE USA, BELGIUM, THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANADA, THE FRG, LUXEMBOURG AND THE NETHERLANDS REDUCE THEIR FORCES BY A TOTAL OF 20 THOUSAND MEN WITH THE CORRESPONDING ARMAMENTS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT. SIMULTANEOUSLY THE USSR, THE GDR, POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL REDUCE THEIR FORCES BY A TOTAL OF 20 THOUSAND MEN WITH THE CORRESPONDING ARMAMENTS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT.

OF COURSE, ONE MAY SAY THAT THIS WOULD BE A SYMBOLIC REDUCTION BUT IN FACT IT WILL HAVE A VERY IMPORTANT POLITICAL AND PRACTICAL SIGNIFICANCE. SUCH A STEP WOULD CLEARLY DEMONSTRATE THE WILLINGNESS OF THE ABOVEMENTIONED STATES TO PROCEED TOWARDS A REAL REDUCTION OF THEIR FORDES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE, AND FURTHER THE STRENGTHENING OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE. THE CARRYING OUT OF SUCH A REDUCTION WOULD ALSO ENABLE US TO ACQUIRE A SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE WHICH UNDOUBTEDLY WILL BE USEFUL IN FUTURE. ALL THIS

WOULD HELP PREPARE A GOOD BASIS FOR THE BRINGING ABOUT OF REDUCTIONS
ON A LARGER SCALE IN THE FOLLOWING STAGES.

DURING THE SECOND STAGE, IN THE COURSE OF 1976, IT IS PROPOSED TO
REDUCE FORCES AND ARMAMENTS OF EACH OF THE PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT
BY 5 PERCENT AND DURING THE THIRD STAGE- IN THE COURSE OF 1977- BY
YET ANOTHER 10 PERCENT.

THE REDUCTION BY THE PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT OF THEIR GROUND
AND AIR FORCES AND ARMAMENTS, INCLUDING THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS,
ON AN EQUAL PERCENTAGE BASIS FULLY CORRESPONDS TO THE
PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY FOR ANY PARTY AND DOES NOT
DISTURB THE RELATIONSHIP OF FORCES WHICH HAS DEVELOPED IN
CENTRAL EUROPE.

THE ARTICLES 3, 4 AND 5 OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT THOROUGHLY
LAY DOWN THE FORM (REGIMEN) OF THE REDUCTION OF FOREIGN AND NATIONAL
FORCES AND ARMAMENTS. THEY PROVIDE IN PARTICULAR THAT THE REDUCTION
SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT ON THE BASIS OF APPROXIMATE IDENTITY IN
ARMS OF SERVICE AND IDENTITY OF TYPES OF UNITS TO BE REDUCED
BY WITH- DRAWING OR DISBANDING ENTIRE TANK AND MOTORIZED

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INFANTRY LARGE UNITS (DIVISION, BRIGADE), UNITS (REGIMENT,
BATTALION), COMBAT AIRFORCE UNITS (REGIMENT, WING, SQUADRON),
ARTILLERY, MISSILE, ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILE UNITS, SUPPORT UNITS
(REGIMENT, BATTALION, SQUADRON) AS WELL AS UNITS AND SUB-UNITS
EQUIPPED WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

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WE HAVE IN MIND THAT THE REDUCED FOREIGN FORCES ARE WITHDRAWN TO WITHIN THEIR NATIONAL BORDERS TOGETHER WITH ALL THEIR ARMAMENTS AND QUIPMENT. THE ARMAMENTS AND EQUIPMENT OF THE FOREIGN FORCES WITHDRAWN ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BE STORED IN THE AREA OF REDUCTION.

AS FAR AS THE NATIONAL FORCES ARE CONCERNED, THE REDUCED NATIONAL UNITS AND FORMATIONS SHOULD BE DISBANDED WITH THE SIMULTANEOUS DEMOBILIZATION OF THEIR PERSONNEL. THE ARMAMENTS AND EQUIPMENT OF THE REDUCED FORCES SHOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM THE TABLES OF ORGINIZATION OF NATIONAL ACTIVE FORCES.

FOR THE FUTURE, OF COURSE, WE MUST COME TO AN AGREEMENT ON THE COMPOSITION OF FOCES AND ARMAMENTS TO BE REDUCED BY EACH PARTY TO THE AGREEMENT. WE CONSIDER THAT THE SPECIFIC LIST OF UNITS OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS TO BE REDUCED SHOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF A SPECIAL PROTOCOL, WHICH WILL BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT.

THE ADVANTAGES OF THE PROPOSED FORM (REGIMEN) OF REDUCTION OF FOREIGN AS WELL AS OF NATIONAL FORCES AND ARMAMENTS BY WITH-
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DRAWING OR DISBANDING THE WHOLE MILITARY (LARGE) UNITS AND SUB-UNITS TOGETHER WITH THEIR ARMAMENTS ARE OBVIOUS. THIS WOULD SECURE REAL AND GENUINE MUTUAL RECUTIONS OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS THE STATES- PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT SHOULD NOT PERMIT ACTIVITIES, WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO THE INCREASE OF MANPOWER, ARMAMENTS AND EQUIPMENT OF THE FOREIGN OR NATIONAL FORCES IN THE AREA OF REDUCTION. ROUTINE REPLACEMENT OF PERSONNEL, ARMAMENTS AND EQUIPMENT OF THE FOREIGN OR NATIONAL FORCES IN THE AREA OF REDUCTION. ROUTINE REPLACEMENT OF PERSONNEL, ARMAMENTS AND EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT WITH THE STRICT OBSERVANCE OF REDUCED LEVELS. THE CORRESPONDING OBLIGATION IS REGISTERED IN ARTICLE 6.

LIKE THE OTHER PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT THE SOVIET UNION, THE GDR, POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE STRICT OBSERVANCE BY ALL PARTIES OF ALL THE RESPONSIBILITIES ASSUMED BY THEM. WE PROCEED FROM THE FACT THAT THE VERIFICA- TION (KONTROL) OF THE FULFILLMENT OF THE PRESENT AGREEMENT CAN BE ENSURED BY NATIONAL MEANS. ARTICLE 7 SAYD THAT THE PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT WILL FORMALLY NOTIFY EACH OTHER ON THE BEGINNING AND THE COMPLETION BY THEM OF PRACTICAL MEASURES ON THE REDUCTION OF THEIR FORCES AND ARMAMENTS PURSUANT TO THIS AGREEMENT.

BESIDES, EACH PARTY TO THE AGREEMENT WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO REQUEST FOR BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PARTIES CONCERNED, IF IT HAS ANY GROUNDS TO BELIEVE THAT ANY OTHER PARTY TO THE AGREEMENT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THIS AGREEMENT. ANY PARTY TO THE AGREEMENT CAN ALSO REQUEST, IF NECESSARY, FOR CONSUL-

TATIONS OF ALL THE PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT TO ENSURE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT.

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE STATES-PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT ON THE REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE SHOULD NOT ASSUME ANY INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS CONTRARY TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRESENT AGREEMENT. SUCH AN OBLIGATION IS LAID DOWN IN ARTICLE 8 OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT.

WE THINK THAT THE FUTURE AGREEMENT SHOULD ENTER INTO FORCE UPON THE DATE OF ITS SIGNATURE AND BE REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 102 OF THE UN CHARTER.

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THE DRAFT AGREEMENT WHICH IS SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATIONS OF THE USSR, THE GDR, POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA REPRESENTS IN OUR VIEW A GOOD BASIS FOR ACHIEVING MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT. THE DRAFT CONTAINS SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE WITH STRICT OBSERVANCE OF THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL SECURITY OF STATES. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REDUCTION PROPOSED BY THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WOULD MEAN IN PRACTICAL TERMS THE REDUCTION IN CENTRAL EUROPE OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SOLDIERS, THOUSANDS OF TANKS, HUNDREDS OF AIRCRAFT, THE BIG AMOUNT OF OTHER ARMAMENTS AND EQUIPMENT. THE REDUCTION OF THE STOCKPILES OF THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS WOULD BE OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE FOR THIS VITAL REGION OF EUROPE.

IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT THE PROPOSED REDUCTION OF FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE IS IN NO WAY DIRECTED AGAINST ANY OTHER COUNTRIES OR THEIR SECURITY INTERESTS. ON THE CONTRARY IT WOULD MEET THE INTERESTS OF THOSE STATES, SINCE IT WOULD SUPPLEMENT POLITICAL DETENTE IN EUROPE BY MILITARY DETENTE AND WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE STRENGTHENING OF EUROPEAN SECURITY.

IT IS NATURAL THAT OUR NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT NOT IN A VACUUM, THEY CONSTITUTE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE GENERAL EFFORTS WHICH ARE BEING UNDERTAKEN BY MANY COUNTRIES IN THE INTERESTS OF DETENTE IN EUROPE AND IN THE WHOLE WORLD. THE STATES PARTICIPATING IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS, HAVE THE GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. PEOPLE LOOK TO US FOR PRACTICAL RESULTS WHICH WOULD PROMOTE THE REAL LESSENING OF THE THREAT OF WAR ON THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT, TO TURN IT INTO THE AREA OF FIRM SECURITY, COOPERATION AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING.

IT IS WITH THIS AIM IN MIND THAT THE DELEGATIONS OF THE SOVIET UNION, THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC, THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC ARE PRESENTING THE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON THE REDUCTION OF ARMED FORCES AND ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. WE ARE READY TO HEAR THE CONSIDERATION

OF OTHER DELEGATIONS WITH REGARD TO THIS DOCUMENT.

END TEXT

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